

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

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house. All in favor of the house going under call please vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 18 ayes, 0 nays to go under call, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The house is under call. All unauthorized personnel please leave the floor and unexcused senators please report to the Chamber. The house is under call. Senator Stuhr, your light is running, your time is running rather, if you'd like to continue with your closing.

SENATOR STUHR: All right, okay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. I will begin my closing as people come to the floor. What this amendment does is provide for a career education task force to study the needs in this area of middle school and high school. They will look at the purpose, the role and the mission of career preparation and technical education programs in our schools. They'll look at the need for these programs both in middle and in high school. They'll look at some of the funding needs to see how much funding will be required; what curriculum needs, we're talking about software now, many of these programs use computers and technology; the availability of teachers in this area in career preparation and in technical education. I think there is a great concern that I know that many schools, industrial tech teachers are very, very difficult to find. We will also be looking at the articulation programs between high schools and postsecondary education institutions offering and looking at different delivery systems might be needed. I believe that this will provide us an opportunity. The task force does consist of numerous members. I'll certainly be willing to continue to discuss how we might make that task force even more inclusive of additional people if there are some concerns in that area. This is an area that I feel very strongly about that we need to do continual study to really look at the program statewide. We always have had a number of students and a number of teachers, businesspeople come in when I've introduced a previous bill on this issue. It always comes down to money. As I said, the bill started out providing \$6 million for additional funding. The amendment before this amendment was to include a grant program to provide \$1.5 million, and I withdrew that amendment and am now